

Summary of proposed statement to be issued on behalf of the ulema, scholars and leaders of Islamic movements in the Muslim world, condemning French policy towards Muslims in France and elsewhere.

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Main points:

- official harassment of Muslims in France: arrests, banishment from France to certain African countries
- Government ban on female Muslims wearing the veil: anyone wearing it is now deprived of study or work
- during a recent exhibition of Arabic books, many works by prominent Muslim thinkers were not allowed
- ulema are now generally banned from entering France to contact the Muslim community
- during the last Ramadan, reciters of the Quran from Al Azhar were banned from entering France
- French policy towards Algeria has included support for the discontinuation of the democratic process; support and encouragement for the military coup and the Algerian government's stand against Muslims and against any settlement to prevent the massive bloodshed
- French policy against Muslims in Bosnia

The signatories to this statement are astounded at the French policy against Islam and Muslim movements and aver that its continuation will result in a rift between the people of France and the Muslim people. We call for a change in policy for the sake of the security of all the Mediterranean countries and to maintain the co-operation between the two great civilisations of Islam and Christianity.